

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

February, 2002

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twelfth Worcester Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.

Residents of Twelfth Worcester Representative District

Treatment Admissions:

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.6% (734) reside in the Twelfth Worcester Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (139) of Twelfth Worcester Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 76.4% of admissions from the Twelfth Worcester Representative District were male and 23.6% were female.
- Over 59.2% of admissions were between the ages of 21-39.
- 87.9% of admissions were white non-Latino, 2.2% were black non-Latino, 7.7% were Latino, 0.2% were Asians, and 2.0% were other racial categories.
- 64.9% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 17.2% were married, and 13.0% reported not to be married now.
- 27.6% of admissions had less than high school education, 46.4% completed high school, and 26.1% had more than high school education.
- 41.3% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 7.1% of those admitted were homeless.
- 9.1% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

Substances Used in Past Year:

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the Twelfth Worcester Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 1 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2001							
Twelfth Worcester Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	625	502	186	189	123	132	99
FY '96	582	441	216	153	106	145	104
FY '97	586	433	167	141	105	122	99
FY '98	606	481	185	139	77	129	82
FY '99	599	464	174	136	76	145	113
FY '00	570	441	196	134	82	197	161
FY '01	734	482	275	169	110	261	195

- Since dropping in FY 1999, residents of Twelfth Worcester Representative District reported an increase in marijuana, cocaine and crack use. Marijuana use increased by 58%, cocaine by 24%, and crack use by 44%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting heroin use increased by 98%, while alcohol use decreased by 4%.

Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twelfth Worcester Representative District.

Table 2					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2001					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	46.4%	40.6%	6.8%	1.3%	1.3%
State	46.5%	35.9%	6.5%	3.9%	3.4%

- While alcohol and marijuana as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was level with the State average, heroin as a primary drug was higher, and, cocaine and crack was lower within your District.